

REMARKS

The Applicants appreciate the thoroughness with which the subject application continues to be examined and the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3, 8, 9, 11-13, 16 and 18. By this amendment, changes have been made in certain claims to overcome the Examiner's objections. Claims 1-20 remain in the application for reconsideration by the Examiner. The Examiner's allowance of all pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 10, 14, 15, 17, 19 and 20 have been objected to due to certain informalities related to the lack of an antecedent basis for specified claim terms.

In response, the Applicants have amended certain claims as set forth above, adopting the Examiner's suggested changes, and further amending claims 14, 17 and 20 to overcome the indefiniteness and inconsistency issues raised by the Examiner.

Claims 3, 8, 9, 11-13, 16 and 18 have been objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in these claims. However, given the amendments to the independent claims from which claims 3, 8, 9, 11-13, 16 and 18 depend, the Applicants respectfully suggest that these claims are now in condition for allowance. Thus the rewriting of these claims is held in abeyance pending the Examiner's reconsideration of the amended claims as set forth above.

The Applicants propose to submit formal drawings for this case upon allowance.

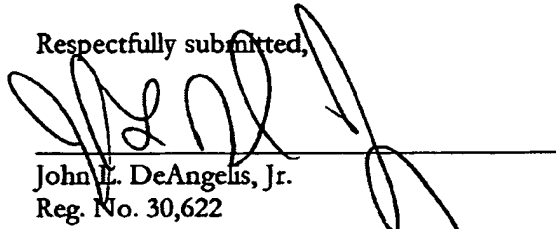
The Applicants have complied with all of the points raised in the Office Action and therefore all claims in the application, i.e., claims 1-20 are now in condition for allowance. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider these rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all the claims pending in the application.

The Applicants hereby petition for an extension of time of one month under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.136. A check in the amount of \$120 payable to the Commissioner for Patents is enclosed in payment of the extension fee.

If a telephone conference will assist in clarifying or expediting this Amendment or the claim changes made herein, the Examiner Lee is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.



Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Amendment is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 24th day of September 2005.



John L. DeAngelis